

# MAYORS YOUTH COUNCIL



## **2012—2013 Membership Application**



**Thank you to our Community Partners!**

City of Wichita, Kansas  
455 N Main, Wichita, KS 67202  
(316) 268-4351

**Mayor's Youth Council  
Membership Criteria and Application Packet  
Deadline for Applying: April 23, 2012**

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Application for membership in the Mayor's Youth Council is open to Wichita youth who 1) submit this application before the deadline, 2) reside within the corporate limits of the City of Wichita, and 3) are high school students. Applicants must be current high school students, 9-11<sup>th</sup> grade, or middle school students that will be entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade at the beginning of the 2012 – 2013 school year. The equivalent must be achieved for students learning at home. Applications are due to City Manager's Office or the City Council Office by April 23, 2012.

**Purpose of the Mayor's Youth Council**

*Mission Statement:* To provide Wichita youth with the opportunity to weigh in on community issues and learn about city government.

*Vision Statement:* Mayor's Youth Council was created to ensure that the youth of Wichita are secure, educated, and connected to the community.

Mayor's Youth Council provides an outlet for young leaders to discuss and take action to address issues that are important to Wichita's youth. Members of the Mayor's Youth Council have numerous opportunities to develop their personal leadership skills through community service, by acting as a catalyst for youth engagement in community matters, through advocacy and education efforts, and by representing their peers in the development and adoption of public policy.

Nearly a quarter of our national population is made up of people younger than 18 – the legal voting age. Despite being unable to vote, this citizen group is essential to a healthy community and should be engaged and active in public affairs and community service.

If you or your student is interested in serving on the Mayor's Youth Council for the 2012-2013 membership year, please contact: **Brandon McGuire, Mayor's Youth Council Coordinator at (316) 303-8052 or [brmcguire@wichita.gov](mailto:brmcguire@wichita.gov).**

### **Application Process**

A panel will be appointed by the Mayor's Youth Council advisor to objectively review applications. This panel will invite 32 students to represent Wichita's youth for the 2012-2013 membership year. Selections will be made based on the following criteria:

- The student's interest in serving on the Mayor's Youth Council. This includes participating in approximately one meeting and one event each month.
- The student's history of community involvement, volunteerism and public service.
- The student's interest in potentially pursuing an education and career in the public sector.
- The student's desire to develop his/her leadership potential.
- Feedback from the student's references.
- The student's history of academic achievement. The minimum GPA Requirements for executive roles is 3.0. All other positions, 2.5.

*To apply:*

1. Complete and sign this application (please print or type).
2. Obtain your parent's or legal guardian's signature, giving you permission to participate.
3. Mail or deliver this application by April 23, 2012 to:

**City Hall, City Manager's Office  
455 N Main  
Wichita, Kansas 67202**

**Personal Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Current GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level for the 2012 – 2013 school year: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

If you indicated that you reside in a city other than Wichita, KS, will you live within the corporate limits of the City of Wichita during the 2012-2013 school year?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

The responses to the following questions will be used to gauge the diversity of the applicant pool:

Race/ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of emergency contact(s) and relationship to youth: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number(s) in case of emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number(s) of emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*As a requirement of membership in the Mayor's Youth Council, students must reside within the corporate limits of the City of Wichita, Kansas.*

**Please respond to the following questions as thoroughly as possible. Responses may be provided on a separate page if needed.**

*1) Please explain your interest in government (E.g. local, state, or federal government; city departments, municipal services, etc.).*

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*2) Please list the personal skills and characteristics you possess that make you a good candidate for the Mayor's Youth Council?*

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*3) Please list any of your qualifications and/or experiences that contribute to your potential success as a member of the Mayor's Youth Council (E.g. student government, political experience, leadership experience, issue advocacy like underage drinking).*

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*4) What other activities are you involved in?*

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5) If applicable, list previous Mayor's Youth Council positions held (please indicate membership year).

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6) In a maximum of two pages (to be attached to this application), please provide a personal statement in which you explain what you believe are the most important issue(s) facing Wichita's youth and how, as a member of the Mayor's Youth Council, you would work with area youth, local government and local nonprofit agencies to address the issue(s).

Council meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM at City Hall. Prior to the Council meetings, committee meetings are held from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

Please indicate your availability:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available to attend meetings at that time.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not available to attend meetings at that time.

Please list two adult references not related to you, who have worked with you in school or non-school activities (E.g. counselor, coach, manager, etc). **Please also include at least one letter of recommendation from one of the references listed below.**

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain your relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain your relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Student Signature*

I understand the monthly time commitment required for the Mayor's Youth Council. I understand that if I have more than three unexcused absences I may be removed from the Mayor's Youth Council, and that excessive excused absences will be handled on an individual basis. I also understand the importance of teamwork and cooperation and will be committed to this council and my fellow council members.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature*

As the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I give consent for my child to participate on the Mayor's Youth Council and all related activities.

Parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_